guidelines to organizations/projects in which Indians are working in Afghanistan. The Goverment of Afghanistan has also taken steps to increase the security provided to Indian personnel and secure more effectively all project sites where Indian nationals are working.

Holocaust Memorial Day

1706.SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether on 1 st November, 2005, the UN General Assembly passed a resolution, declaring '27th January[1] to be observed from next year as 'Holocaust Memorial Day' to commemorate liberation of the Nazi concentration camp at Aushwitz, Poland, which had witnessed killing more than one million people;

(b) whether it is a fact that India has not registered its support to the UN Resolution;

(c) if so, the rationale behind said stand of the Government; and

(d) which other countries have restrained from supporting the Resolution at the UN General Assembly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. On 1st November, 2005, the UN General Assembly adopted a resolution on "Holocaust Remebrance" which decided to designate 27th January as an annual International Day of Commemoration in memory of the victims of the Holocaust.

(b) No.,Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The resolution was adopted by consensus.

Pre-Condition for repatriation of Abu Salem

†1707. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have accepted any conditions for repatriation of Abu Salem from Portugal, who is the main alleged in Mumbai bomb blast;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) whether Government have taken steps for repatriation of other wanted criminals; and

(d) the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Yes, Sir;

(b) The Government of India provided solemn guarantees to the Portuguese Government according to which Abu Salem Ansari to be extradited to India would not be punished with the death penalty or with a prison exceeding 25 years. According to the Portuguese Constitution these guarantees were required before his extradition could be processed.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Government of UAE deported three (3) persons namely Ibrahim Kaskar, Ejaz Pathan and Mustafa Dousa who are wanted in Bombay Bomb Blast case during February to March, 2003. The request for extradition of Taher Mohd. Merchant an absconder in 1993 Bombay Blast Cases, in pending with the Government of UAE.

Passport applications in Karnataka

1708. SHRI KB. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications received every day through direct submissions, speed posts, district passport cells and passport application collection centres in Karnataka;

(b) the average number of days taken to issue a passport;

(c) the special facilities provided for those who opt for Tatkal scheme; and

(d) the other people-friendty measures taken up of Bangalore Passport Office?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) The average No. of Applications received everyday through:

(i)	Direct submissions	463
(ii)	Speed Post	110
(iii)	District Passport Cells	21
(iv)	Passport Application Collection Centre: Mangalore	127
	Gulbarga	21